

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

**Representative Body Meeting  
January 19, 2014 – 1:00**

Durham Friends Meeting, Durham, NC

Attending

John Hunter  
Richard Phillips  
Karen Garraputa  
Claire Parrish  
Patricia Sebens  
Ken Bradstock  
Dottie Bradstock  
Linda Hunter  
Jennifer Leeman  
Tom Munk  
Karen McKinnon  
Tom Kagan  
Annette Broadwell

Meeting

Durham  
Friendship  
New Garden  
New Garden  
New Garden  
Fancy Gap  
Fancy Gap  
Durham  
Chapel Hill  
Chapel Hill  
Durham  
Raleigh  
Chapel Hill

The meeting opened after a period of silent worship.

Karen McKinnon agreed to serve as temporary recording clerk in the absence of Jeff Brown.

During introductions, we welcomed Richard Phillips as the new representative from Friendship Meeting and Jennifer Leeman and Tom Munk who are temporarily representing Chapel Hill today.

Treasurer's Report

Tom Kagan distributed copies of the Treasurer's report as of 12/31/2013 (summary attached to these minutes) and verbally reviewed the data. Tom will send the previously approved \$200 honorarium off to Scott Holmes as soon as he gets Scott's address. The representatives accepted the report. Although appreciation was previously expressed for the long term service of Bob Cooper as treasurer, Friends present wished to again state such appreciation.

Listserve Maintenance

Micah Barnhill-Wright is not present today so no report is available. Friends are conscious that changes are occurring with regard to new meeting clerks and representatives. Data will be collected to forward to Micah.

PFF Website

John Hunter noted that the Raleigh Meeting has hosted the PFF web pages for many years and that they are in the process of shifting their website to the new FGC Quaker Cloud and will no longer be able to host our web pages. We need to determine how we should move forward with our web presence. Issues of archival storage, security, access, and features were briefly discussed. An ad hoc committee of John Hunter, Tom Keegan, and Ken Bradstock is appointed to make a recommendation as to our best options.

## Yearly Meeting Formation Committee Report

John Hunter read a report from the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee prepared by Marian Beane (attached to these minutes.) The committee has for 6 months been primarily working on a Yearly Meeting Vision and Core Elements document which was distributed to interested PFF meetings for comment in November. The committee also addressed the issue of the future relationship of the new yearly meeting to an ongoing PFF. The next task for the committee will be drafting a proposal for the necessary and rightly ordered elements of a new yearly meeting structure including core committees, officers, finances, affiliation processes, etc. The committee hopes to be able to report to the Representatives in March. For those representatives present who may not have been aware, John Hunter also reviewed the long history of PFF's wrestling with the yearly meeting question since the 1970s and he noted that there are other established yearly meetings who have moved through very similar circumstances which are serving as possible models for structure.

## Youth Programming

Karen Garraputa updated the representatives on progress toward a formal PFF youth program including paid staff as previously approved. She is in the process of gathering information from which to draft an appropriate job description. Of interest was very recent discussion between Karen and Andrew Barnhill-Wright of Durham Meeting with regard to a possible collaboration of PFF and NCYM Conservative. Friends are excited about the energy of Young Friends and those supporting these initiatives.

## Planning Committee

John Hunter reported that the newly formed Planning Committee has not gelled at this time. There seem to have been more scheduling issues than anticipated. This issue will be re-addressed at our next meeting.

## Planning for the Annual Meeting, March 14-16

Karen Garraputa outlined some of the opportunities available by holding our annual meeting at the New Garden Meeting. One of these would involve modifying our usual Sunday morning schedule so as to worship with New Garden Friends at their 11:00 AM semi-programmed meeting for worship. She even encouraged interested PFF Friends to explore joining the music or worship programs if led. The representatives agreed that such a schedule change was appropriate and decided to hold our business meeting at 9:00 on Sunday. Karen also noted that PFF youth could join New Garden First Day school activities at 11:00 AM. PFF Representative Body will meet as usual after lunch.

The Friday evening schedule was discussed. It was agreed to engage Barbara Bates Smith and Jeff Sebens to perform "Go Granny D" at 8:00. Prior to the performance, it was hoped that the youth might help to organize some intergenerational games after the potluck and before the show.

Karen Garraputa will approach several possibilities for food coordination for the weekend as a paid job. We will utilize volunteers to do much of the actual food preparation.

John Hunter confirmed that our first choice for the adult program, George Lakey, was unavailable for our weekend. Several other possibilities were discussed. Karen Garraputa will call Mary Kay Glazner to see if she is available. Pending that outcome, other possibilities of Jan Hutton from Chapel Hill or Marcella Wagner and Linda Hunter from Durham will be explored as both of these offerings are in concert with the theme of conflict resolution as agreed in November. Also a possibility is Jack Ciancio with a program on forgiveness and reconciliation.

With regard to children and youth, Raleigh Meeting will be asked to consider organizing for the grade school aged children, Durham Meeting will be asked to handle the youth program (middle school and up), and Friendship Meeting will be asked to see if they can find appropriate caregivers to mind toddlers up through age 4 or 5. Such caregivers would not be volunteers but would be paid \$20 per hour.

Both New Garden and Friendship will be asked to see if any of their members would be interested in providing overnight hospitality, while Chapel Hill Meeting will handle registration and coordination of the lodging. John Hunter will look into arranging hotel space.

The custom of offering a book table to sell Quaker-related books provided by the FGC book store was discussed and unless a willing volunteer to handle this task is found, it was decided not to pursue this custom this year. Saturday evening remains unprogrammed at this point other than the idea of providing intergenerational activities with youth planning involvement. Other ideas will be solicited.

John Hunter will take care of getting the daily program schedule finalized and sent out. Friends are encouraged to promote attendance at our annual meeting.

Announcements and other Business

New names and corrections for the listserve; Kath Adams of Winston-Salem Meeting needs her email address corrected as she is not receiving announcements. Richard Phillips will be added, and solicitation for names of new clerks and representatives will be made.

Appreciation was expressed for Durham Meeting's hosting and the very fine lunch provided to supplement the pot luck.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship.

Karen McKinnon, Temporary Recording Clerk

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**Attachments:**

1 of 2

1. Summary\* of Piedmont Friends Fellowship Financial Report as of 12/31/13

Cash balance (net worth) as of 12/31/2012: \$ 12,270.22

2013 Income

Annual donations from member meetings in 2013:	\$ 4,266.25.	
Receipts from Spring Annual Meeting and Fall Retreat:	<u>\$ 3,438.43</u>	
	\$ 7,704.68	\$ 7,704.68

2013 Expenses

Expenses for PFF Spring and Fall retreats:	\$ 3,088.99	
Expenses for support for travel to FGC committees and Gathering:	\$ 1,750.00	
Donations to Quaker organizations:	\$ 600.00	
Bank Charges:	<u>\$ 6.00</u>	
	\$ 5,444.00	<u>\$ - 5,444.99</u>

Cash Balance (net worth) as of 12/31 2013 \$ 14,529.91

\*Summarized from 4-page report presented at the 1/19/14 PFF representative body meeting.

2. Report from the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee from Marian Beane

December 22, 2013

Dear Friends,

As we enter into this time of seasonal celebration and calendar transition I want to take opportunity to greet you and provide a few updates & reminders related to our journey toward the formation of a new Yearly Meeting.

1. Yearly Meeting vision and core element document: At the November 24<sup>th</sup> meeting at Spring Friends we received responses from the several PFF monthly meetings and sought to listen deeply to their encouraging messages as well as suggestions/advices on modifications to the document. Christina took notes and has sought to faithfully incorporate our understandings into a revised document. It is attached for your reading. Our continued thanks to Christina for your faithful service in this regard
2. Yearly Meeting relationship to Piedmont Friends Fellowship: We heard a report from Marian regarding PFF Representative Body's consideration of our proposed relationship of the Yearly meeting and PFF. We asked if there was benefit in further seasoning of the proposal within the PFF representative body and/or among the PFF meetings/worship group?
3. Future meetings of the Formation Committee for your calendars
  - January 26<sup>th</sup> hosted by New Garden Friends. More details to follow
  - February 23<sup>rd</sup> (tentative but hold the date for now) if we become clear in January that additional time is needed to complete our work prior to the PFF annual meeting in March; location TBD
  - March 15th (Saturday afternoon) - at New Garden Friends location of the PFF Annual Retreat
4. January meeting major agenda items
  - **Primary consideration:** elements for the yearly meeting organization, structure and guiding principles including: officers, core committees, affiliation process for monthly meetings and worship groups, finances, and affiliation with other Quaker bodies
  - **Secondary consideration:** Revised Vision & Core elements document

Trusting that you are well and will receive with open hearts and minds the blessings of this season